

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1           1.     A method for transferring data, the method comprising:  
2                 (a)     reading, from an input record, a recorded unique device  
3     identification and recorded device data for a device;  
4                 (b)     searching an index for an enduring unique device  
5     identification matching the recorded unique device identification; and,  
6                 (c)     updating the index with the recorded device data.
- 1           2.     The method of claim 1 wherein the recorded device data includes a  
2     recorded usage data.
- 1           3.     The method of claim 2 further including:  
2                 (a)     reading an enduring usage data from an enduring record in  
3     the index having enduring unique device identification matching the recorded  
4     unique device identification; and,  
5                 (b)     calculating a difference in usage data from the enduring  
6     usage data and the recorded usage data.
- 1           4     The method of claim 1 wherein updating the index with the  
2     recorded device data includes replacing enduring device data from the index  
3     with the recorded device data.
- 1           5     The method of claim 1 wherein updating the index with the  
2     recorded device data includes updating enduring device data from an enduring  
3     record in the index having enduring unique device identification matching the  
4     recorded unique device identification.

1           6.     The method of claim 1 further including, responsive to a failure to  
2 find a match to the recorded unique device identification in the index, creating in  
3 the index an enduring record for the device.

1           7.     The method of claim 1 further including tracking updates to the  
2 index.

1           8.     A system for transferring data, the system comprising:

2               (a)     an input record for a device, the input record having a  
3 recorded unique device identification and recorded device data;

4               (b)     a record reader configured to read, from the input record,  
5 the recorded unique device identification and the recorded device data for the  
6 device;

7               (c)     an index having at least one enduring record, each enduring  
8 record having an enduring unique device identification;

9               (d)     an inspector configured to search the index for one of the  
10 enduring unique device identifications matching the recorded unique device  
11 identification; and,

12               (e)     an updater configured to update the index with the recorded  
13 device data.

1           9.     The system of claim 8 wherein the recorded device data includes a  
2 recorded usage data.

1           10.    The system of claim 9 wherein the at least one enduring record  
2 further includes enduring device data and the enduring device data includes an  
3 enduring usage data and further including:

4               (a)     an index reader configured to read the enduring usage data  
5 from the enduring record having the enduring unique device identification  
6 matching the recorded unique device identification; and,

7 (b) a calculator configured to calculate a difference in usage  
8 data from the enduring usage data and the recorded usage data.

1 11 The system of claim 8 wherein the updater includes a recorder  
2 configured to replace enduring device data from the index with the recorded  
3 device data.

1 12 The system of claim 8 wherein the at least one enduring record  
2 further includes enduring device data and the updater is further configured to  
3 update the enduring device data from the enduring record having the enduring  
4 unique device identification matching the recorded unique device identification.

1 13. The system of claim 8 further including an inserter configured to  
2 respond to a failure to find a match to the recorded unique device identification  
3 in the index by creating, in the index, an enduring record for the device.

1 14. The system of claim 8 further including a transaction log  
2 configured to track updates to the index.

1 15. A program storage device readable by a computer, tangibly  
2 embodying a program, applet, or instructions executable by the computer to  
3 perform method steps for transferring data, the method steps comprising:

4 (a) reading, from an input record, a recorded unique device  
5 identification and recorded device data for a device;

6 (b) searching an index for an enduring unique device  
7 identification matching the recorded unique device identification; and,

8 (c) updating the index with the recorded device data.

1           16.    The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the recorded  
2   device data includes a recorded usage data and wherein the method steps  
3   further include:

4                   (a)    reading an enduring usage data from an enduring record in  
5   the index having enduring unique device identification matching the recorded  
6   unique device identification; and,

7                   (b)    calculating a difference in usage data from the enduring  
8   usage data and the recorded usage data.

1           17.    The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method step  
2   of updating the index with the recorded device data includes replacing enduring  
3   device data from the index with the recorded device data.

1           18.    The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method step  
2   of updating the index with the recorded device data includes updating enduring  
3   device data from an enduring record in the index having enduring unique device  
4   identification matching the recorded unique device identification.

1           19.    The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method steps  
2   further include, responsive to a failure to find a match to the recorded unique  
3   device identification in the index, creating in the index an enduring record for the  
4   device.

1           20.    The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method steps  
2   further include tracking updates to the index.